



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 1

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Planting of corn and soybeans was at a standstill again this week due to continued rain showers, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Record rainfall during the month of April has caused severe flooding in many low lying areas. Planting of corn is now approximately 20 days behind last year and 17 days behind the 5-year average pace. The record year for late planting occurred in 1961 when there had been no corn planted at this time and only one percent had been planted by May 10<sup>th</sup>. Winter wheat condition is beginning to decline as some acreage has been damaged from standing water.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 0.1 **days suitable for field work**. Two percent of the intended **corn** acreage has been **planted** compared with 69 percent last year and 31 percent for the 5-year average.

Fifty-seven percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed** compared with 67 percent last year and 66 percent for the 5-year average. One percent of the winter wheat acreage has **headed** compared with zero percent last year and 4 percent for the 5-year average. **Winter wheat condition** is rated 57 percent good to excellent compared with 72 percent last year at this time.

Major activities during the week included: mowing road sides and ditches, monitoring drainage structures, preparing planting and tillage equipment, hauling grain to market and taking care of livestock.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Livestock remain in mostly good condition at this time, but pastures and feedlots are very muddy causing some problems for farmers trying to haul feed. **Pasture condition** is rated 50 percent good to excellent compared with 78 percent last year. Hay supplies are rated 4 percent very short, 22 percent short, 70 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus.

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn Planted	2	2	69	31
Winter Wheat Jointed	57	37	67	66
Winter Wheat Headed	1	NA	0	4

### CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Winter Wheat	2	8	33	45	12
Pasture	3	12	35	42	8

### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	0	1	2
Adequate	19	29	63
Surplus	81	70	35
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	1	4	5
Adequate	34	46	77
Surplus	65	50	18
<b>Days Suitable</b>	.1	.5	2.9

### CONTACT INFORMATION

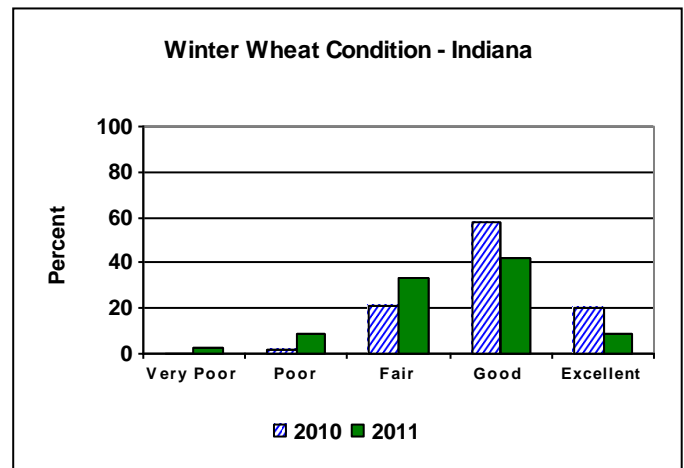
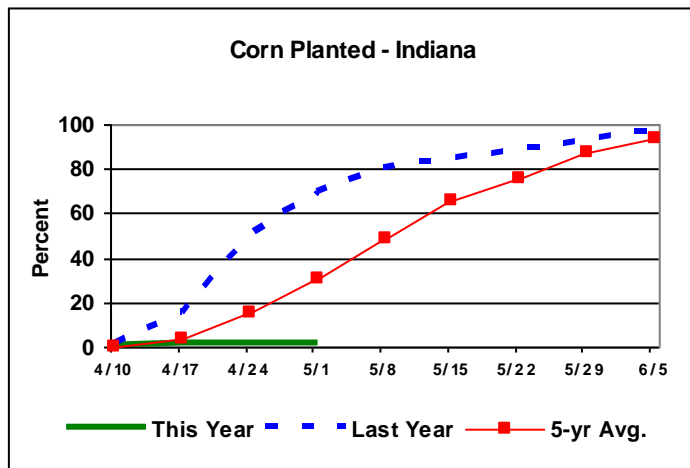
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# Crop Progress



## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### "Safe" Hybrid Maturities for Delayed Corn Planting in Indiana

Written by R. L. (Bob) Nielsen, Agronomy Dept., Purdue University, e-mail address: rnielsen@purdue.edu

It seems early to begin fearmongering about the possible necessity of switching to earlier relative hybrid maturities, but the similarities of this planting season with other late planting years is making some farmers fidget a little as they impatiently wait for fields to dry out. One of the biggest agronomic concerns with severely delayed planting is the risk of the crop not reaching physiological maturity before a killing fall freeze and the yield losses that could result. An economic concern with delayed planting is the risk of high grain moistures at harvest and the resulting costs incurred by drying the grain or price discounts by buyers.

The tables that accompany this article list "safe" relative hybrid maturities for corn planted throughout the month of May based on their heat unit requirements ([adjusted for planting date](#)) and anticipated "normal" accumulation of heat units between planting and an average date (50% probability) of a killing fall freeze. Because GDD accumulations are generally less and "usual" fall frosts occur earlier in the northern and east central areas of Indiana, delayed planting forces hybrid maturity changes earlier than other areas of the state. However, even for those areas of Indiana, serious departures from "typical" hybrid maturities need not be considered until later in May.

The maturities listed in Table 1 are those that should reach physiological maturity at least by the week when a killing fall freeze occurs, while Table 2 lists hybrid maturities that should mature at least one week PRIOR to a killing fall freeze. When making a decision to plant hybrid maturities that are unusually early for your area of the state, make the effort to identify hybrids with good disease resistance traits.

Table 1. Approx. "safe" relative hybrid maturities for late planting dates in Indiana with the objective that physiological maturity occurs at least by the week of the expected fall frost date.

		Planting date...			
Crop Rpt	"Typical"	Expected			
District	CRM	fall frost date	1-May	15-May	31-May
Approx. "safe" relative maturity					
NW	109	6-Oct	113	112	109
NC	109	6-Oct	113	112	108
NE	109	6-Oct	111	109	106
WC	112	13-Oct	118+	118+	118
C	112	13-Oct	118+	118+	116
EC	109	6-Oct	114	112	109
SW	116	20-Oct	118+	118+	118+
SC	113	13-Oct	118+	118+	118+
SE	113	13-Oct	118+	118+	118+

50 pct fall frost risk date

Table 2. Approx. "safe" relative hybrid maturities for late planting dates in Indiana with the objective that physiological maturity occurs at least one week before the expected fall frost date.

		Planting date...			
Crop Rpt	"Typical"	Expected			
District	CRM	fall frost date	1-May	15-May	31-May
Approx. "safe" relative maturity					
NW	109	6-Oct	111	110	106
NC	109	6-Oct	111	109	106
NE	109	6-Oct	108	107	104
WC	112	13-Oct	118+	118+	116
C	112	13-Oct	118+	118	113
EC	109	6-Oct	111	110	106
SW	116	20-Oct	118+	118+	118+
SC	113	13-Oct	118+	118+	118+
SE	113	13-Oct	118+	118+	118+

50 pct fall frost risk date

The Crop Reporting Districts are those defined by the National Ag. Statistics Service, USDA, for Indiana. The acronym "CRM" refers to Comparative Relative Maturity as defined by Pioneer Hi-Bred.

(continued on page 4)

# Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, May 1, 2011

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air							April 1, 2011 through				
	Temperature				Precip.			May 1, 2011				
					4 in			Precipitation   GDD Base 50°F				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
<b>Northwest (1)</b>												
Chalmers_5W	72	40	54	-3	3.06	4		7.87	+4.11	18	99	-25
Francesville	72	37	53	-2	3.33	5		7.80	+4.00	17	76	-19
Valparaiso_AP_I	72	36	53	-1	1.06	2		3.85	-0.24	14	103	+14
Wanatah	71	31	51	-2	3.33	6	54	7.51	+3.58	22	64	-5
Winamac	72	37	54	+0	3.28	5	54	7.95	+4.15	19	98	+3
<b>North Central (2)</b>												
Plymouth	71	38	53	-3	2.64	5		6.96	+2.96	19	76	-28
South_Bend	69	37	54	+2	3.25	4		6.95	+3.02	18	101	+22
Young_America	72	40	55	+2	2.37	6		7.31	+3.72	20	96	+5
<b>Northeast (3)</b>												
Fort_Wayne	71	40	56	+3	1.84	6		5.40	+1.91	21	122	+37
Kendallville	71	39	54	+1	2.45	6		7.11	+3.73	24	66	-16
<b>West Central (4)</b>												
Greencastle	73	40	56	-2	4.47	6		12.32	+8.46	19	152	+11
Perrysville	76	41	57	+3	4.02	4	59	8.14	+4.14	17	149	+34
Spencer_Ag	75	41	58	+3	2.71	6		11.31	+7.15	19	193	+72
Terre_Haute_AFB	74	43	59	+3	4.12	6		11.33	+7.30	19	230	+88
W_Lafayette_6NW	74	41	55	+1	3.27	4	56	8.34	+4.50	18	122	+26
<b>Central (5)</b>												
Eagle_Creek_AP	74	42	60	+3	2.28	6		8.47	+4.64	20	213	+81
Greenfield	73	41	57	+2	2.20	6		11.99	+7.83	22	163	+55
Indianapolis_AP	74	42	60	+4	1.75	6		8.11	+4.28	18	229	+97
Indianapolis_SE	73	41	58	+2	2.79	6		11.41	+7.52	20	154	+33
Tipton_Ag	73	40	56	+3	3.25	6	59	9.42	+5.40	20	113	+36
<b>East Central (6)</b>												
Farmland	72	40	56	+4	2.30	6	61	7.33	+3.64	20	103	+31
New_Castle	71	41	56	+4	2.83	6		11.35	+7.14	18	135	+59
<b>Southwest (7)</b>												
Evansville	77	44	63	+4	3.87	6		12.05	+7.88	17	361	+142
Freelandville	76	44	59	+2	2.99	6		12.27	+8.25	17	247	+88
Shoals_8S	77	43	59	+3	3.45	6		12.04	+7.78	16	244	+87
Stendal	76	43	61	+3	3.88	6		14.23	+9.63	17	308	+123
Vincennes_5NE	76	44	60	+3	4.18	6	60	12.27	+8.25	15	256	+97
<b>South Central (8)</b>												
Leavenworth	76	45	61	+4	4.53	6		13.72	+8.99	17	277	+115
Oolitic	75	41	59	+3	3.13	6	60	13.12	+8.97	19	217	+82
Tell_City	76	47	62	+3	4.88	6		13.33	+8.36	17	313	+117
<b>Southeast (9)</b>												
Brookville	74	42	59	+5	3.96	6		12.55	+8.58	18	202	+100
Greensburg	75	41	60	+4	3.34	6		12.60	+8.38	20	215	+92
Seymour	75	44	59	+3	4.06	6		13.97	+9.92	16	209	+71

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DFN = Departure From Normal.

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit [www.awis.com](http://www.awis.com) or call 1-888-798-9955.

## "Safe" Hybrid Maturities for Delayed Corn Planting in Indiana (continued)

Recognize that while the hybrid maturities listed in either table should safely mature by their respective dates, severely delayed plantings will likely mature at a later time in the fall when further grain drying in the field typically occurs at a proverbial snail's pace. Thus, grain moisture at harvest for delayed plantings may be unacceptably high in terms of both the ease of harvest and the costs of artificially drying the grain.

Farmers can mitigate this aggravation somewhat by planting even earlier maturity hybrids, but recognize that there may not be as great of a difference in grain moisture content as you think. Typically, a one "day" difference in relative maturity rating equals 0.5 percentage point difference in grain moisture content at harvest (Nielsen, 2009). That means there will only be about 2 points difference between, say, a 106-day hybrid and a 110-day hybrid at harvest.

### Related References:

Nielsen, Bob. 2002 (rev). Estimating Yield and Dollar Returns From Corn Replanting. Purdue Univ. Cooperative Extension Service publication AY-264-W. Online at <http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/pubs/AY-264-W.pdf>. [URL accessed Apr 2011].

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Nielsen, Robert L., Peter R. Thomison, Gregory A. Brown, Anthony L. Halter, Jason Wells, and Kirby L. Wuethrich. 2002. Delayed Planting Effects on Flowering and Grain Maturation of Dent Corn. Agron. J. 94:549-558.

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